The City of Saint John

NEWS RELEASE
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Saint John, NB

Spring/Summer Road Work and Cleaning

City Engineering Manager Brian Keenan today announced that as part of ongoing road work in Saint John this summer, particular focus will be on Rothesay Avenue, where the surface asphalt will be renewed from the One Mile House at Russell Street to Civic #386 near Shaw Brick.

"This large section of one of our main thoroughfares in the City has become a priority due to the raveling defects and premature aging it has shown almost since it was placed in the fall of 2003," said Mr. Keenan. "The top layer of asphalt is scheduled to be milled off and overlaid with a new surface course of asphalt in this year's resurfacing maintenance program."

This section of Rothesay Avenue was rebuilt in 2003 with provincial funding assistance under the Municipal Designated Highway (MDH) Grant Program. Asphalt patching has been applied to defective areas in previous years but the degree of deterioration experienced over this past year made it necessary to re-surface the entire section. Keenan indicates that the City wants to protect the substantial investment that has been made in Rothesay Avenue and that the surface asphalt layer was the only concern with the project which was otherwise successfully constructed. The new surface layer is estimated to cost a substantial amount of money.

Road work and street cleaning will continue throughout the City over the course of the summer. "City crews have been re-organized and are ready to begin patching with hot mix asphalt when the first local asphalt plant opens in late April," said Saint John Works Director Shayne Galbraith. "Crews will initially be focused on repairing potholes on main arterial and collector streets, and emergency utility cuts made in asphalt streets over the winter period have been packaged and tendered and should also be attended to at the same time as the pothole repair effort. We intend to put more resources out early and work on the high traffic areas, and then move into our normal summer asphalt maintenance program."

Saint John Works crews have launched the annual spring street sweeping program, with most of the cleaning of streets and sidewalks in the Central Business District and along major traffic routes already completed. There is still a lot of area to cover. The amount of sand to remove is heavier due to more winter storms and more treated sand, which was used due to the shortage of road salt. It is anticipated that spring street sweeping could extend into June before all streets have been swept of winter debris.

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For More Information//Pour plus d'information:
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